

## **BECERRA—AUTHORED TAXPAYER RIGHTS PROVISIONS INCLUDED IN HOUSE-PASSED TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE BILL**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010, legislation to provide taxpayers with additional resources and protections during tax time. The bill includes several sections authored by Congressman Xavier Becerra (CA-31). Rep. Becerra, Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and a senior member of the Ways and Means Committee, voted for the bill.

**“As millions of working families in America fight through these tough economic times, we must do everything we can to protect their rights as taxpayers and provide as much of a helping hand as possible during tax season,” Rep. Becerra said. “I am pleased that key provisions from my legislation, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights Act, were included in H.R. 4994.”**

The portions of H.R. 4994 authored by Rep. Becerra included:

- Allow the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to refer taxpayers to certified Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITC)
- Increase federal grants for LITCs from \$6 million to \$20 million annually
- Require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study on the effectiveness of collection alternatives, such as “offers-in-compromise”
- Require the National Taxpayer Advocate to study the feasibility of delivering federal tax refunds on debit cards, pre-paid cards or other electronic means

These provisions, which were part of the [Taxpayer Bill of Rights Act of 2008](#), will also be included in legislation that Rep. Becerra will introduce April 15, 2010.

[Click here to read a summary of the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010.](#)